United Nations E/2008/3

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
27 February 2008

Original: English

Resumed organizational session for 2008
29 and 30 April 2008
Agenda item 2
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Letter dated 27 February 2008 from the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to the President of the Economic and Social Council

I would like to inform you that the Government of Yemen has extended an invitation to the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to hold its twenty-fifth session in Yemen from 24 to 27 May 2008. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, Yemen will assume the chairmanship of the Commission.

This invitation was confirmed in an official letter from the Ambassador of Yemen in Beirut, Faisal Amin Abu-Rass, attaching the Yemeni Cabinet's decision No. 20 of 2008, by which the Cabinet approved the hosting of the twenty-fifth session in Sana'a.

I regard this invitation as a unique opportunity for ESCWA outreach to its member States and to target a wider audience in its only least developed country. Moreover, I intend to seize this occasion to organize a number of side events to promote the economic and social development strategies of Yemen and solicit further support for these plans.

I have brought this invitation to the attention of the members of the Bureau of the twenty-fourth session. Informal consultations with member States indicate the general welcoming of Yemen's invitation.

I wish to seek the approval of the Economic and Social Council to hold the session in Sana'a, in order to proceed with all the related preparations in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Economic and Social Council, under agenda item 2.

(*Signed*) Bader Omar **AlDafa**
Under-Secretary-General
Executive Secretary

08-25399 (E) 060308